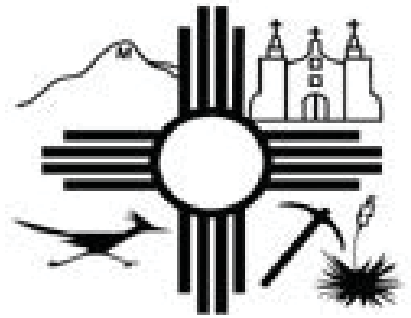


City of Socorro

111 School of Mines Road

Socorro, New Mexico 87801

Phone (575) 835-0240 www.socorronm.gov



Volume 4, No. 12

December 2011

First Saturday has plenty to offer!

The **Very Large Array** is offering its first Saturday tours on December 3 at 11:00, 1:00 and 3:00. Gather up the family (it may be radio astronomy, but the fun is definitely family-friendly!) and join up with one of the 30-minute behind-the-scenes tours--free, no reservations needed. Then stay to participate in some of the hands-on activities after the tour. This month the focus is on the Big Bang and the beginning of the Universe.

Wait! There's more! Saturday evening Socorro is combining two favorite holiday traditions: the **Luminaria Art Walk** and the **Christmas Light Parade**.

Festivities start at 5:30 when luminarias will light the walkways around the Plaza, their warm glow inviting all to stroll along and visit the nearby businesses for a taste of good cheer. Local artists will display their work at various businesses where you can shop for unique gifts and enjoy holiday refreshments. At 6:00 the Christmas Light Parade will wend its way along California Street, ending at the Plaza with the annual lighting of the Christmas tree at 7:15 and an opportunity for kids to have their picture taken with Santa.

And there will be music! Besides music at some of the businesses, the Socorro High School Choir will be caroling around the Plaza and the Prima Donnas will perform at 7:00 at the gazebo.

Join your friends for an early start to the winter holidays!

Employee Anniversaries

John Silva

10 years

Rosemary Rosas

5 years

Will 2012 Be the Year?

Will 2012 be the year you decide to run for office and serve your community as a City Councilor? It's not too early to be thinking about it. The filing date is January 10, so you need to be talking it over with your family and neighbors and planning your campaign strategy now.

Four seats on the Council will be up for election. Currently those seats are held by Maryanne Chavez-Lopez, Toby Jaramillo, Michael Olguin, Jr., and Peter Romero. Municipal Judge Frances Cases' seat on the bench is also up for election. A Councilor's term of office is four years.

If you miss the January 10 filing date, you have until January 17 to file as a write-in candidate. Votes for a write-in candidate who has not filed as a write-in will not be counted.

Running for office requires time, dedication and a desire to make a difference. If you have any questions about the process or the requirements, please call City Hall at 835-0240.

Talk it over with your family now: 2012 could be YOUR year to step up and serve your Socorro community.

City Council

Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez

Nick Fleming

Gordy Hicks

Toby Jaramillo

Donald Monette

Michael Olguin, Jr.

Ernest Pargas, Jr.

Peter D. Romero

Ravi Bhasker, Mayor

Pat Salome, Clerk

Have a safe and happy holiday!